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Key Soviet Weapons Stocks

28 September 1955

The sustained high level of arms production in the Soviet Union during the post-war period has created quantities of armaments which would permit a military aid program of substantial proportions. As major items of equipment the Soviet ground forces are estimated to have more than 55,000 tanks and about 24,000 self propelled guns, of which about 32,000 could be drawn upon for an MDAP type program. The Soviet airforce is estimated to have in operational units about 20,000 aircraft of all types and their program for reequipping air units with modern jet aircraft is creating surpluses of conventional aircraft and the older types of jets. The initiation of MIG-15 production in Poland and Czechoslovakia augments the Soviet production facilities and has created a capacity beyond the peacetime needs of the combined Communist bloc without resorting to multiple shift production in the aircraft plants.

The replacement of obsolscent MIG-15's with newer models has created a reserve of 4-6,000 MIG-15's, of which a substantial number could be used in an arms aid program.

A modernization program for jet light bombers, of which there are about 3,200 in units, is just beginning and as development and production of a replacement for the IL-28 progresses there will be increasing numbers of these aircraft available for an arms program. Prior to the time when production of the new jet light bomber is initiated the plants which have been producing IL-28's have a capacity for producing more than is required

because of normal attrition thus making IL-28's available for an arms program.

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**Selected Military End-Items
(USSR)**

	<u>End of World War II Inventory</u>	<u>Production Since World War II</u>
Medium Tanks	14,000	50,000
Heavy Tanks	1500	9,000
MIQ-15	-	14,500
MIQ-17	-	10,000
IL-28	-	5,300

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